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Secretary of Local First Witness Called Before Legislative Committee

PARTY PLATFORM EVIDENCE

By the Associated Press Albany, N. Y., Jan. 22.—Julius Gerber, secretary of the New York local of the Socialist party, was the first witness called today at the trial before the Assembly judiciary committee of the five suspended Socialist assemblymen charged with disloyalty.

As soon as Gerber had been sworn J. B. Stanchfield, committee counsel, obtained from him a copy of the constitutional platform of the Socialist party in 1917, which was introduced in evidence.

Mr. Stanchfield also introduced in evidence the state constitution of the Socialist party, from which he read excerpts, including one providing that candidates for public office should, on receiving nomination, leave their resignations with the party to insure their fulfilling party commands. Bylaws of the New York county organization also were introduced.

Mr. Stanchfield read extracts from the national platform, which says the consent of the party is required for state or local, is necessary for any member of the party to hold public office. All persons joining the party must subscribe to a pledge to be guided in all political actions by the constitution and principles of the party organization.

All Must Be Pacifists Any Socialist voting for any appropriation for military or naval purposes shall be expelled from the party, according to the constitution. The instrument further prescribed that Socialists elected to legislative bodies should organize into a group separate from all other parties and should always vote as a unit.

Expulsion from the party is the penalty provided in the constitution for voting for any candidate for public office other than the Socialist party members who have not been endorsed or recommended by the party organization.

When Mr. Stanchfield objected on the ground that "we are not interested in the party outside the United States," Mr. Hillquit said he was ready to accept that statement if the prosecution would make itself to the party in America. The chair ruled the question could be answered and Gerber replied in the affirmative.

INFLUENZA IN HAVANA

6000 Cases Reported in Cuban Capital—Spreading in This Country

Washington, Jan. 22.—(By A. P.)—Six thousand cases of influenza have been reported in Havana, Cuba, the Public Health Service was advised today by its representative in that city.

The service announced that all possible precautions to prevent the entry of the disease into the United States were being taken both at Havana and at American ports.

Further spread of the malady in this country was reported to the service today, ninety-three new cases being listed in Kansas and 2430 in sixteen counties of northern Illinois.

J. BENJ. DIMMICK'S WILL

Estate of \$60